

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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HPD Advises Heavy Traffic for JMU Graduation

With James Madison University commencement scheduled for May 4, the Harrisonburg Police Department reminds citizens to expect significant traffic delays, congestion, and an increase in pedestrian traffic throughout the week. According to JMU officials, approximately 3,600 students will graduate this weekend, so motorists can at least expect a like increase in vehicle and pedestrian activity throughout the commencement period.

"The areas that traditionally see a large increase in traffic volume and congestion will be places the casual motorist will want to avoid," says HPD Traffic Officer Ed Skelton. "Port Republic Rd., University Blvd., Reservoir St., and South Main St. near the Quad, will be very busy, and we expect high traffic congestion at the I-81 ramps and also in restaurant and shopping areas such as Harrisonburg Crossing and around the Valley Mall," added Skelton.

Also a reminder to residents in zoned areas in and around JMU, graduation weekend (Friday and Saturday) is an exception to permit zone enforcement, so traffic in these neighborhoods will also likely be heavy.

HPD reminds motorists to please be cautious when driving in Harrisonburg this week, and as always, drive safely, be alert, and minimize distractions when behind the wheel.

Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2013!

For more information please visit www.jmu.edu/commencement or tune to AM 1610.

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